

S-BPM in Research and Education

Robert Singer

Erwin Zinser

Department of Information Management

Enterprise Engineering & Integration

FH JOANNEUM University of Applied Sciences, Graz, AUSTRIA

Agenda

- § Degree Program Information Management
- § Development of Business Process Management
- § Link of S-BPM to various hot topics
- § Recent S-BPM application in research, projects, and teaching
- § Future plans and open questions

Degree Program Information Management

§ Competence Fields

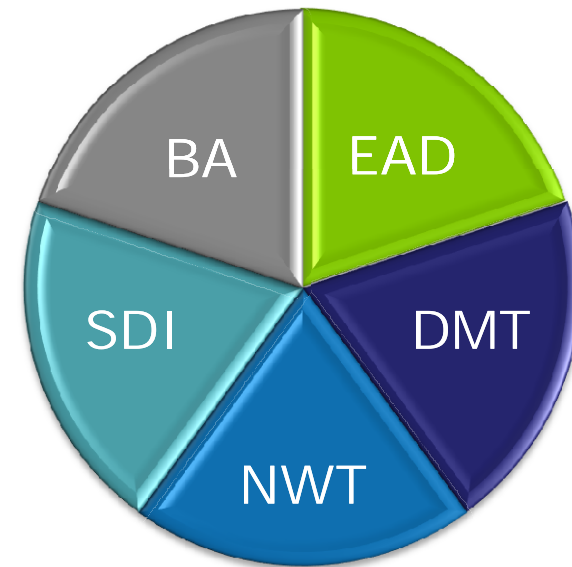
- § Enterprise Architecture Design (EAD)
- § Digital Media Technologies (DMT)
- § Network Technologies (NWT)
- § Software Engineering,
DBs & Information Systems (SDI)
- § Business Administration (BA)

§ Bachelor Course (6 semesters)

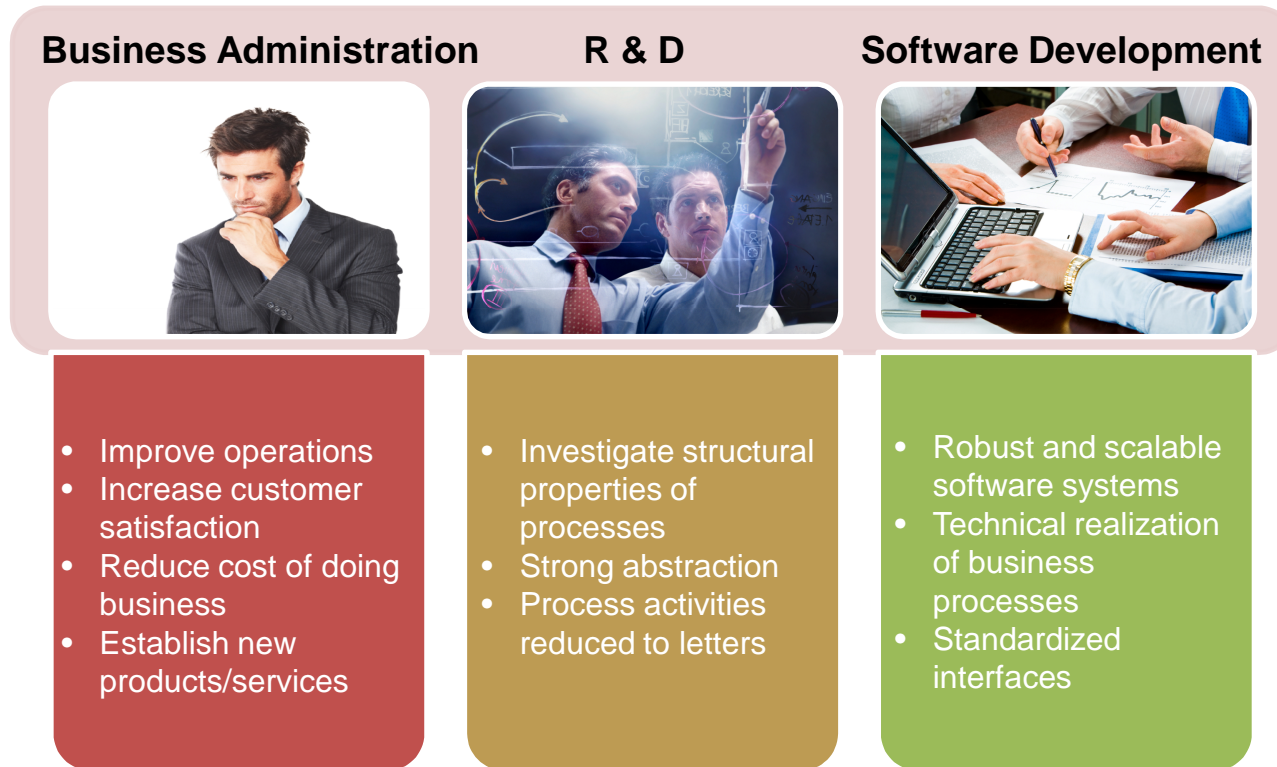
- § education-oriented

§ Master Course (4 semesters)

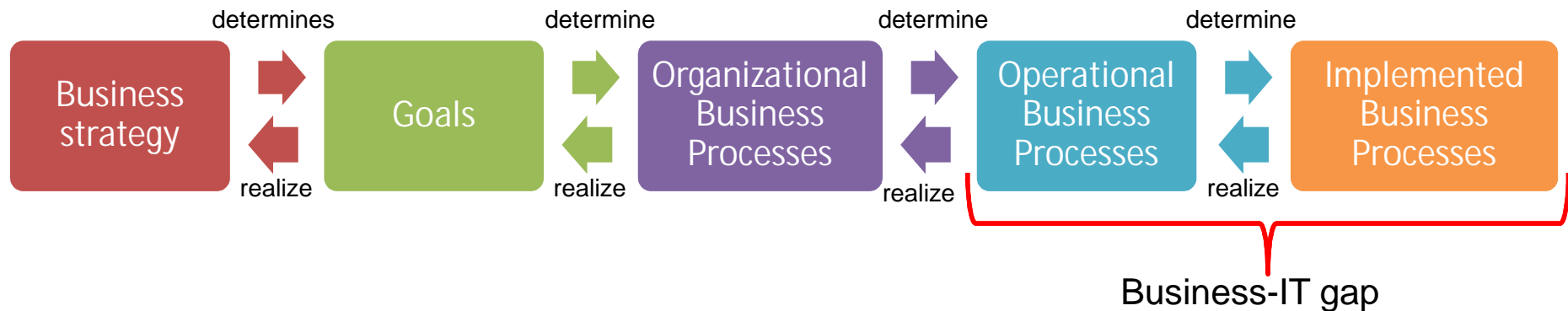
- § research-oriented



Perspectives on Business Process Management (BPM)

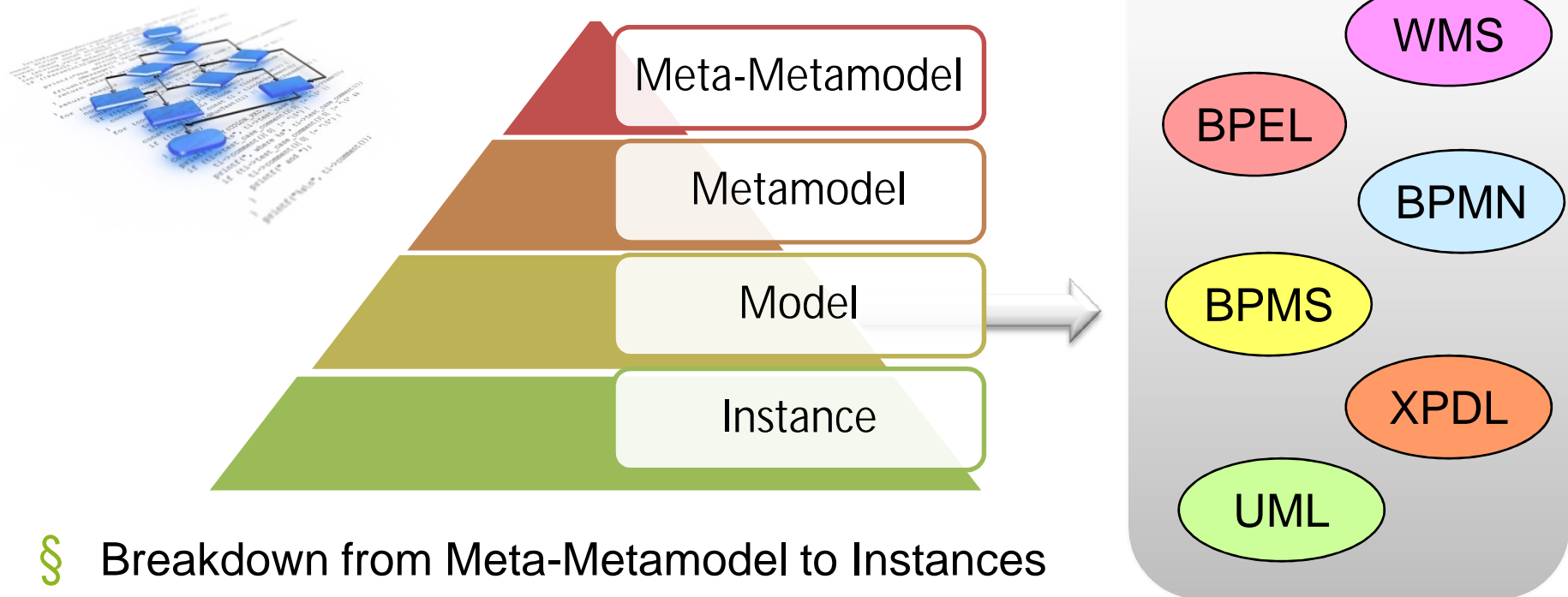


Levels of business processes: From business strategy to implemented business processes



- § Connection between business strategy and implemented business processes
- § Problem: Integration of processes into IT systems à Business-IT gap
 - § Process description on business-side
 - § Implementation on IT-side

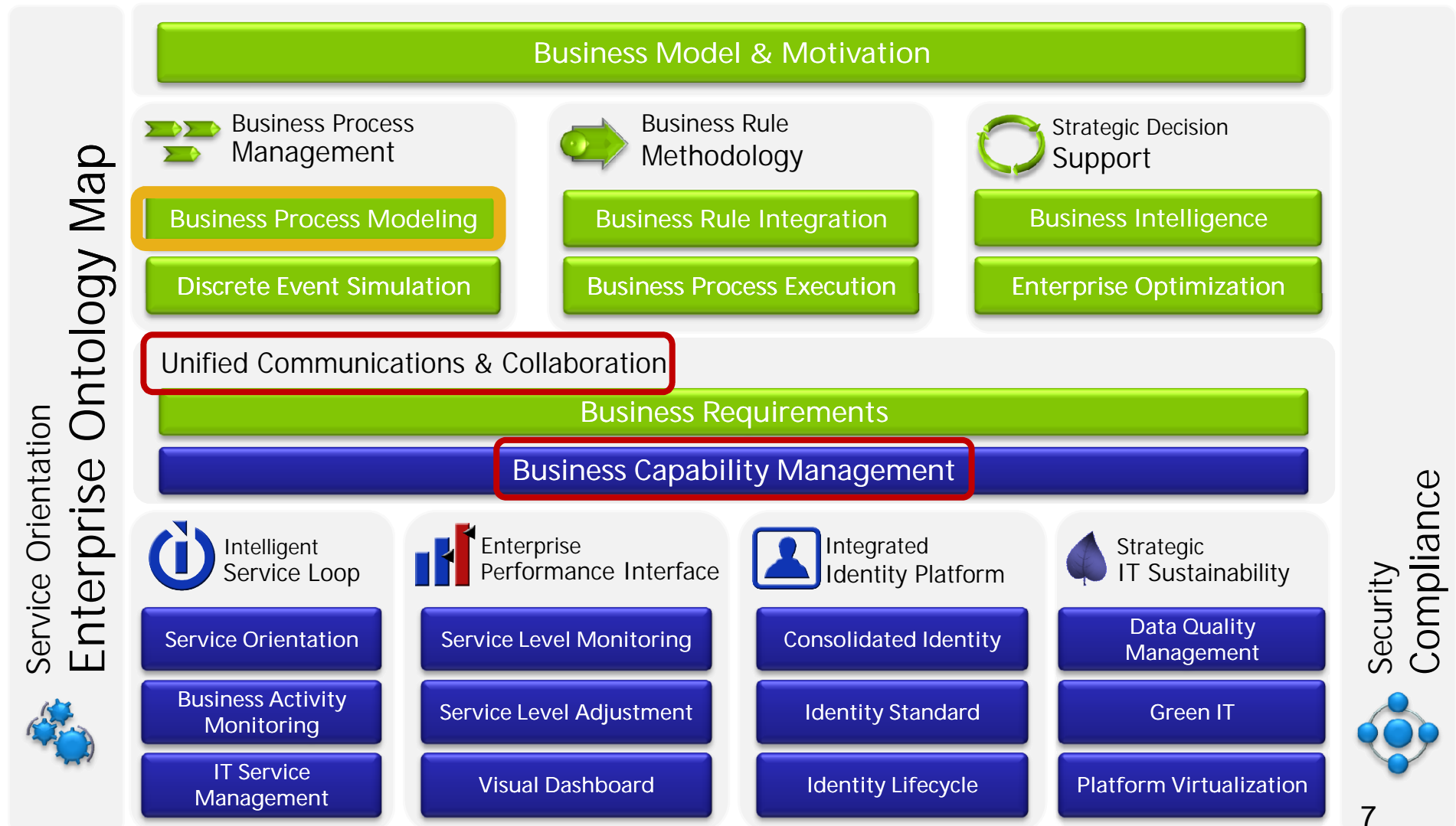
Business Process Modeling: Levels of Abstraction



- § Breakdown from Meta-Metamodel to Instances
- § Various notations used to define models
- § S-BPM as new modeling paradigm

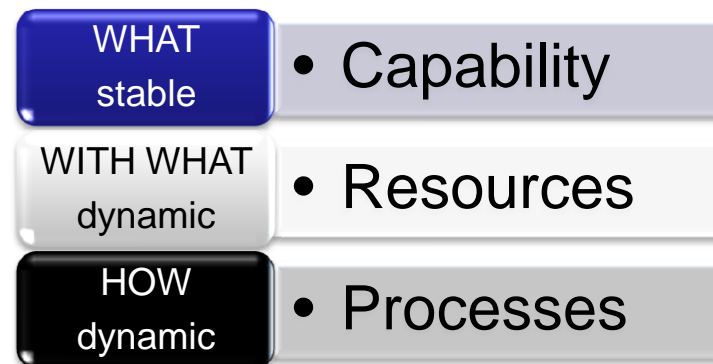
S-BPM

BPM in connection with other research topics



Business Capability Management and S-BPM | 1

- § Hypothesis: The transformation of business capabilities into business processes by means of the subject-oriented design paradigm is a valid as well as efficient path within the context of BPM
- § BCM is a management approach dealing with stable components of an enterprise



“A business capability is a particular ability or capacity that a business may possess or exchange to achieve a specific purpose or outcome. A capability describes what the business does (outcomes and service levels) that creates value for customers; [...]. A business capability abstracts and encapsulates the people, process/procedures, technology, and information into the essential building blocks needed to facilitate performance improvement and redesign analysis. “ (Homann, 2006)

Business Capability Management and S-BPM | 2

§ Procedure Model

§ Establish Business Capability Map

- § derived from Business Strategy
- § derived from Management Reference Models
- § derived from existing Business Processes

§ Define BC Granularity as required

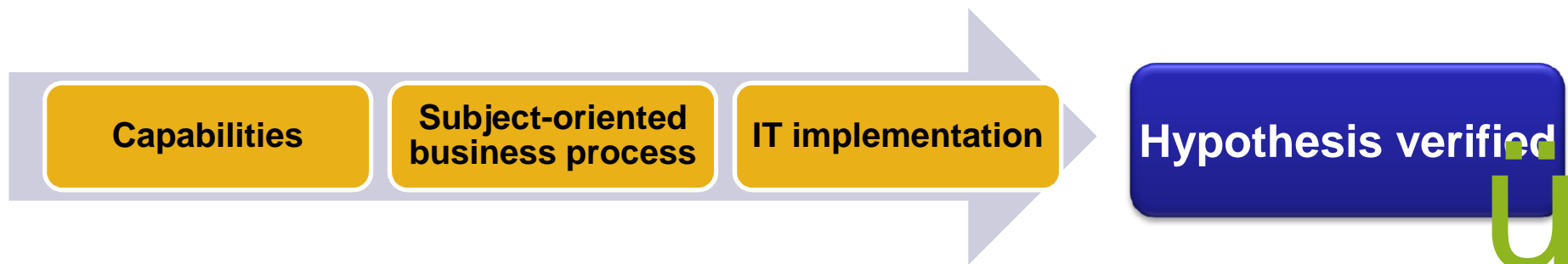
§ Transform BCs into Process Definition using the jCOM1 BPM Suite

- § Orchestrate BCs to generate BC Chains
- § Assign BCs to appropriate Subjects and corresponding Resources
- § Perform Simulation and Optimization and roll out Business Process onto suitable Runtime Environment

Business Capability Management and S-BPM | 3

§ Proof of Concept: Real-world Business Process at Audi (delivered by jCOM1)

- § Conventionally designed business process decomposed into business capabilities
- § Business capability chains established
- § Transformation into subject-oriented business process
- § Mapping of appropriate resources
- § Successful roll-out into IT infrastructure



Unified Communications and S-BPM | 1

§ Hypothesis: Because S-BPM is highly message-oriented, it turns out to be a powerful approach to support human interaction business processes supported by underpinning UC technology



S-BPM

“Unified Communications is a new communication architecture, in which various forms of real-time communications and collaboration applications are integrated so individuals can manage all their communications together rather than separately, in both desktop and mobile environments.” (Lazar, 2007)

Unified Communications and S-BPM | 2

§ Process Selection

- § Pre-Sales Process of Datentechnik Austria GmbH & Co KG
- § Highly driven by Human Interaction and ad-hoc Patterns



§ Process Design and Validation

- § jCOM1 BPM Suite

§ Process roll out

- § MS Office Communications Server 2007 R2
 - § Unified Communications (Audio and Video Conferencing, Application Sharing, Instant Messaging, Telephony)
 - § Presence Status (*via* Active Directory DS)
- § MS Dynamics CRM 4.0
 - § CRM Functionality
 - § Workflow Engine
 - § Presence Status (*via* Active Directory DS)
- § MS Exchange Server 2007
 - § Unified Messaging (Email, Fax, Subscriber Access)
 - § Presence Status (*via* Active Directory DS)



Unified Communications and S-BPM | 3

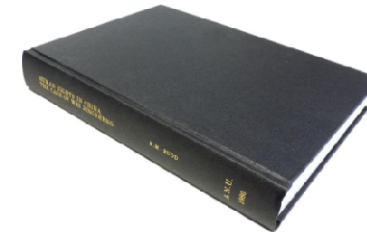
§ Results

- § intuitive modeling of human interaction business processes is well supported by S-BPM
- § due to the message-oriented design principle of the jCOM1 BPM suite, process definitions can easily be deployed to various infrastructure assets because of strict parallelism regarding message-oriented behavior of both systems
- § human interaction behavior is highly reflected by the jCOM1 BPM suite thus providing high acceptance among employees
- § underpinning UC-technology creates substantial value within the environment of human interaction based business processes

Hypothesis verified



S-BPM – completed research



Diploma Thesis results

§ Business Capability Management and S-BPM

§ Christoph Pachler, 2007, Development of business processes based on the business capability management approach using the subject-oriented business process description

§ Unified Communications and S-BPM

§ Mathias Loder-Taucher, 2008, Unified Communication and Human Interaction Management as enabler for business processes

§ Enterprise Engineering

§ Jakob Brüder, 2009, Enterprise Engineering – Merging Enterprise Architecture, Enterprise Ontology and Business rules

“Enterprise Engineering: Discipline applied in carrying out any efforts to establish, modify or reorganize any enterprise“ (ISO 15704:2000)

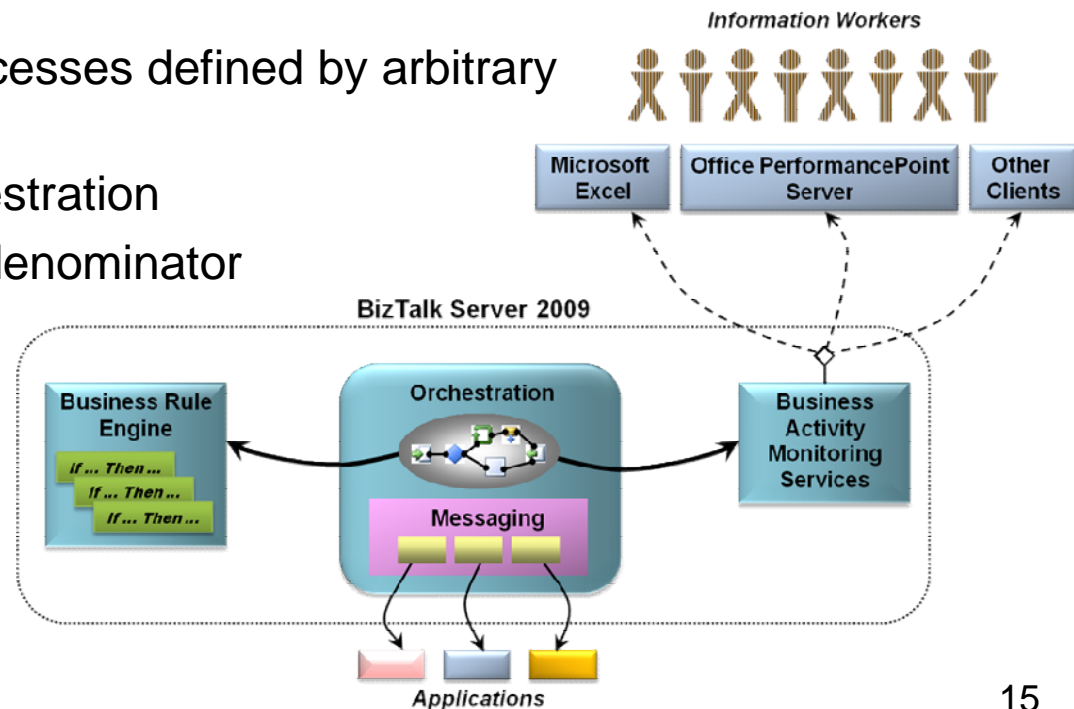
Student Projects – WS-BPEL Import into MS BizTalk Server

§ Task: Development of an XML-interface in order to successfully import validated process definitions from the jCOM 1 BPM suite to MS BizTalk Server

§ BizTalk Server

- § automate business processes defined by arbitrary BPM tools
- § High-performance orchestration
- § WS-BPEL as common denominator

Task accomplished



Lectures – Messaging and Workflow Systems | 1

§ Course Objectives

- § Set up and administer a representative unified messaging as well as workflow management system
- § Design and functional implementation of simple business processes
- § Compile knowledge with respect to prominent BPMN standards (BPMN, WS-BPEL, XPD, S-BPM)

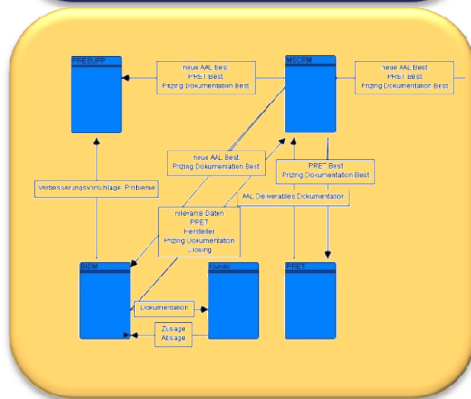
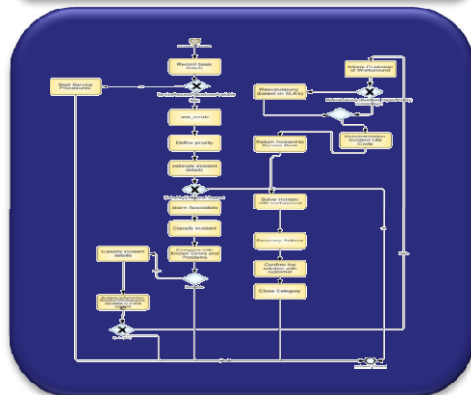
§ Tools

- § MS BizTalk Server
- § MS Exchange Server
- § inubit Business Integration Server
- § Process Modeler for MS Visio
- § jCOM1 BPM Suite



Lectures – Messaging and Workflow Systems | 2

**BPMN/S-BPM
Modeling**



Conversion into BPEL

```

<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8' ?>
<process name='LoanApprovalProcess_Approver' targetNamespace='http://acme.com/loanprocessing'
xmlns:tns='http://acme.com/loanprocessing' xmlns:xsi='http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2003/03/business-process'
xmlns:tns1='http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2003/03/business-process'
xmlns:tns2='http://tempuri.org/services/loandefinitions' xmlns:tns3='http://tempuri.org/services/loanapproval'
xmlns:tns4='http://tempuri.org/services/loanassessor' xmlns:xsd='http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema' >
  <outlines>
    <partnerLinks>
      <partnerLink name='LoanApprover' myRole='Approver' partnerLinkType='tns:LoanApproverLT' />
    </partnerLinks>
    <variables>
      <variable name='MainChoreo_loanRequest' messageType='tns:creditInformationMessage' />
      <variable name='MainChoreo_approvalInfo' messageType='tns:approvalMessage' />
      <variable name='MainChoreo_riskAssessment' messageType='tns:riskAssessmentMessage' />
      <variable name='MainChoreo_error' messageType='tns:loanRequestErrorMessage' />
      <variable name='unused' type='xsd:any' />
    </variables>
    <sequence>
      <pick createInstance='yes' name='somedescription' >
        <onMessage partnerLink='LoanApprover' portType='tns:LoanApproverLT' operation='approve'
variable='MainChoreo_loanRequest' >
          <switch>
            <case condition='bpws:getVariableData('MainChoreo_loanRequest','amount','')<10000' >
              <sequence>
                <assign>
                  <copy>
                    </copy>
                  </assign>
                  <reply partnerLink='LoanApprover' portType='tns:LoanApproverLT' operation='approve'
variable='MainChoreo_approvalInfo' />
                </sequence>
              </case>
            <case condition='bpws:getVariableData('MainChoreo_loanRequest','amount','')>=10000' >
              <switch>
                <onMessage partnerLink='LoanApprover' portType='tns:LoanApproverLT' operation='approve'
variable='MainChoreo_loanRequest' >
                  <pick>
                    </pick>
                  </sequence>
                </switch>
              </case>
            </switch>
          </onMessage>
        </pick>
      </sequence>
    </sequence>
  </outlines>
</process>

```

**Runtime
execution**

**BPEL
Workflows**

inubit *is*
INUBIT BUSINESS INTEGRATION SERVER

Microsoft®
BizTalk Server

Process Management
jCOM1
Feel the Flow

S-BPM – further research activities

§ Interdisciplinary Projects

§ jCOM1 + Microsoft Dynamics NAV

develop a prototype and define use cases including economic valuation
team of 3 students

§ jCOM1 + Business Rules

develop a prototype and define use cases including economic valuation
team of 2 students

§ Two accepted submissions for MS Dynamics NAV Convergence 2009

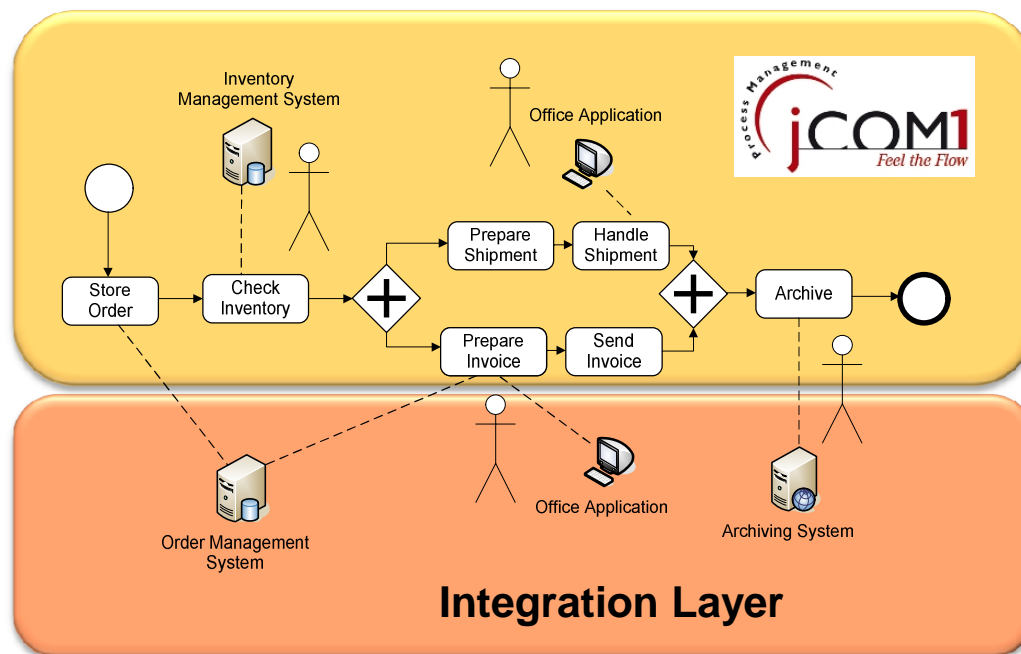


jCOM1 – Seamless Integration with NAV 09

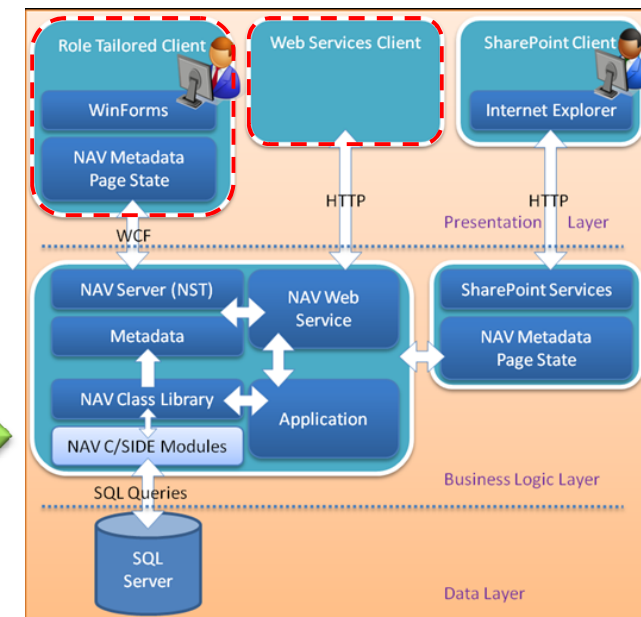
§ Two integration approaches

§ via Windows Communication Foundation (WCF)

§ via Web Services

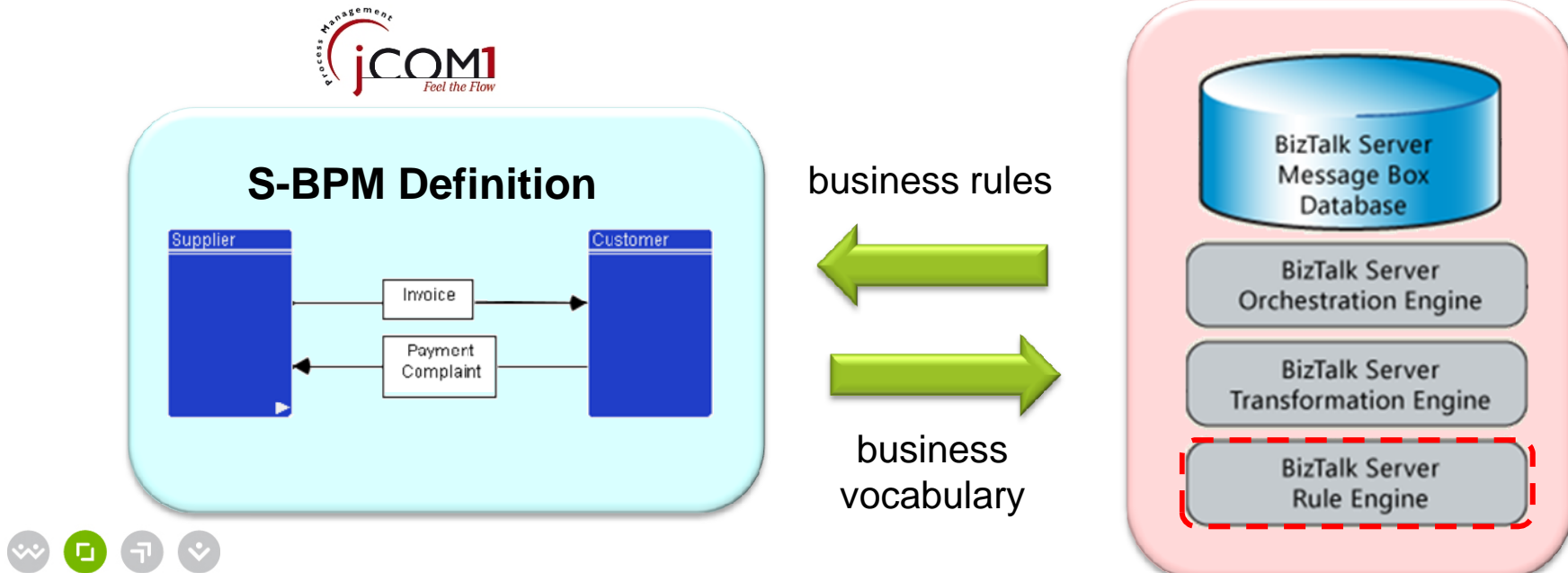


Microsoft Dynamics™ NAV



jCOM1 – Business Process & Rules Repository

- § jCOM1 Suite as Business process repository
 - § Source for business vocabulary used for building up business dictionary
- § Definition of Business Rules repository
 - § MS BizTalk 2009 Business Rules Components
 - § Enactment of business rules in jCOM1 via refinements



S-BPM - future application in education

§ Lectures

§ Bachelor

3rd Semester: **Business Process Management – Basics**

§ Use of jCOM1 Suite as a modeling tool

4th Semester: **Business Process Management – Applications**

§ Development of a case study including the detailed definition of business processes

§ Practical exercises with BPM tools such as the jCOM1 suite (replacing ARIS and ADONIS).

§ Master

1st Semester: **Business Process Management**

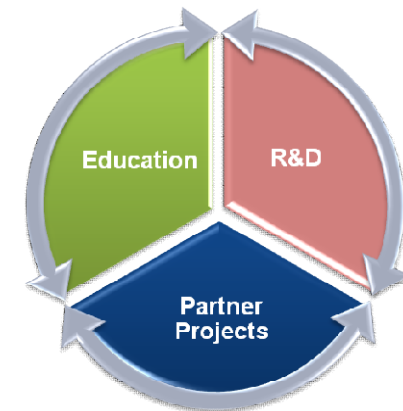
§ scientific background of different concepts, architectures and languages

§ stochastic processes and discrete event simulation

§ 2nd Semester: **Enterprise Architecture Design 2**

§ Modeling of IT service management processes

§ functional roll-out to WFMS



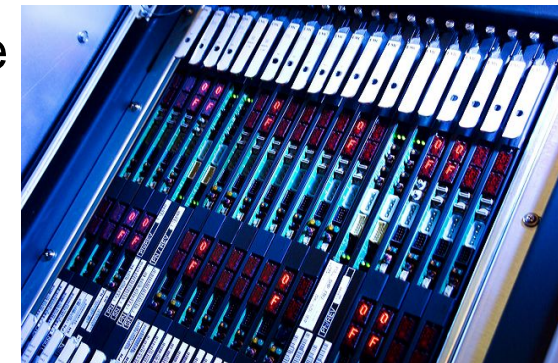
S-BPM – open questions

- § Formal categorization
 - § S-BPM in the relation to π -calculus (or any other „theory“)
- § Adoption of S-BPM in jCOM1 Suite
 - § Research regarding feasibility of S-BPM concept
 - § Further support for open standards (BPMN 2.x, etc.)
 - § Usability enhancements
- § Methodology
 - § How to define business requirements?
 - § How to integrate semantics and logic?
 - § How to consider collaboration and communication?
 - § Framework for agile business process management
- § Economic aspects
 - § Value Benefit Analysis, etc.



What do we offer?

- § A highly motivated EEI-team
 - § Christopher Schwarz
 - § Christina Schweiger
 - § Alexander Sellner
 - § Robert Singer
 - § Erwin Zinser
- § A future-oriented high-performance infrastructure
 - § HVL (high-end server and storage hardware)
 - § Entology Lab (UC-enabled)
 - § Standard Labs
- § Well-established network



Thank you for your attention!

